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Message Text

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16
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAM-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01 /072 W
---------- 003703
R 221512Z DEC 75
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6411
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SP, SW
SUBJECT: SPANISH SOCIALIST LEADER GONZALES VISITS SWEDEN

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. THE LEADER OF THE SPANISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PSOE), FELIPE CONZALES, VISITED STOCKHOLM
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DECEMBER 19 AND MET WITH PRIME MINISTER (AND

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SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY CHAIRMAN) OLOF PALME, PARTY SECRETARY STEN ANDERSSON, AND LO CHIEF GUNNAR NILSSON.

2. IN AN INTERVIEW CARRIED ON SWEDISH TELEVISION, GONZALES STATES THAT WHILE SO FAR THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT HAS "ONLY STATED ITS INTENTIONS," THE OPPOSITION "EXPECTS DIRECT MEASURES TO INCREASE DEMOCRATIC FREEDOM." AT LEAST 90 PERCENT OF THE SPANISH PEOPLE, HE SAID, "WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A POLITICAL SOLUTION WITHOUT VIOLENCE." ACCORDING TO GONZALES, THE OPPOSITION IN SPAIN IS SUFFICIENTLY UNITED TO FORM A BROAD ALLIANCE "WITH A WIDE SPECTRUM OF POLITICAL OPINION, INCLUDING THE 'CIVILIZED RIGHTWING'". ALL OF THE POLITICAL MOVEMENTS, HE CONTINUED, BELIEVE THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO MOVE CLOSER TO EUROPE.

3. GONZALES SAID THAT OPPRESSION HAS NOT RPT NOT INCREASED IN SPAIN. "ON THE CONTRARY," HE ADDED, "I NOTICE A CERTAIN SOFTENING, ALTHOUGH IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN HOW LONG IT WILL LAST." THE DEMANDS OF THE OPPOSITION, GONZALES CONCLUDED, ARE "AMNESTY FOR ALL POLITICAL AND LABOR PRISONERS, FULL FREEDOM OF SPEECH, ABOLITION OF THE TERRORIST ACT AND THE POLITICAL COURTS, AND FULL FREEDOM FOR LABOR ORGANIZATIONS AND THE POLITICAL PARTIES." END UNCLASSIFIED.

4. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. IN A CONVERSATION WITH THE AMBASSADOR, BERNT CARLSSON, INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY OF THE SWEDISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY, SAID THAT GONZALES HAD BEEN GIVEN RED CARPET TREATMENT BY THE SWEDISH PARTY AND GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING A MEETING WITH THE FULL SWEDISH CABINET. ACCORDING TO CARLSSON, GONZALES (WHO IS FLUENT ONLY IN SPANISH) SAID HE BELONGED TO A "NEW GENERATION" OF SPANISH POLITICIANS BORN AFTER THE CIVIL WAR, WHO DO NOT SHARE THE PASSIONS ANIMATING THE OLDER LEADERS IN EXILE WHO EXPERIENCED THE CIVIL WAR. GONZALES REPORTEDLY TOLD THE SWEDES THAT THE GREAT MAJORITY OF SPANIARDS DO NOT RPT NOT WANT REVOLUTION, SINCE THERE IS NOW A LARGE MIDDLE CLASS WITH A VESTED INTEREST IN MAINTAINING STABILITY. THE SPANISH OPPOSITION LEADER
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SAID HE IS PREPARED TO WORK WITHIN THE CONSTITUTIONAL, LEGAL FRAMEWORK WHICH IS DEVELOPING IN SPAIN. HOWEVER, HE TOLD THE SWEDES THAT HE BELIEVES THE COMMUNIST PARTY SHOULD BE LEGALIZED RATHER THAN HAVING IT GO UNDERGROUND;

5. SPECULATING ON THE OUTCOME OF FUTURE ELECTIONS IN SPAIN, GONZALES PREDICTED THAT THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS

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WOULD POLL 30 PERCENT, THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS (OR WHATEVER TITLE THE MODERATE, CONSERVATIVE PARTY USES), WOULD POLL ANOTHER 30 PERCENT, THE COMMUNISTS 10 PERCENT, AND THE REMAINING 30 PERCENT DIVIDED AMONG THE EXTREMIST PARTIES OF RIGHT AND LEFT. CARLSSON SAID GONZALES DID NOT ASK FOR ANY MONEY NOR WAS ANY OFFERED HIM BY THE SWEDES. HOWEVER, CARLSSON NOTED THAT IN FEBRUARY THE SPANISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATS SENT A NUMBER OF THEIR PARTY FUNCTIONARIES TO SWEDEN FOR TRAINING IN CONDUCTING AN ELECTION CAMPAIGN. CARLSSON ADDED THAT SINCE THERE HAVE BEEN NO REAL ELECTIONS IN SPAIN FOR MORE THAN TWO GENERATIONS, THE SPANISH POLITICIANS HAVE HAD NO EXPERIENCE IN RUNNING SUCH A CAMPAIGN. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION, CARLSSON SAID SWEDISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATS WERE GIVING SPANISH PARTY "THE STRONGEST BACKING" OF ANY SOCIALIST PARTY IN EUROPE.
STRAUSZ-HUPE.

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